

-----

Title: Rare Animals - Vol.1

Author: Jaine

-----

This first volume of my collection, I wish to dedicate to the first very rare species that I acquired for my collection. The Oceanian Crocodile and the Black Cockatoo. I have documented some information about both species in this tome for the purpose of helping in the recapture of my missing animals.

#### Black Cockatoos

There are three species of black cockatoo found in the Oceania region, all of which are extremely rare.

They are among the largest of the parrot family, and have a majority of black plumage, with an accentuating colour in their tail feathers, which separates the species. This alternate colour may be red, white or yellow.

They mostly feed on the seeds of native plants, with a smattering of insects.

The cockatoos may generally be found in woodland areas, and build their nests in hollow trees. These birds mate for life, with both parents building the nest and caring for their young. There are usually two eggs laid, and one

chick surviving to maturity. Young cockatoos are in the care of their parents for about six months.

The birds that have escaped are due to lay eggs, so may be found in regions containing hollow trees.

## Oceanian Crocodiles

There are two species of crocodiles, one living in salt water, the other in fresh water. They differ from alligators in the shape of their jaw, possessing a much narrower snout better designed for streamlined swimming.

The fresh water crocodile is the smaller of the two species and is considered endemic to the Oceanian region. They grow to around 3 metres in length.

They breed in the late spring or early summer months, laying around 20 eggs in a hole in the sand of a riverbank.

The sex of the offspring is determined by the temperature of the nest. If the temperature is steady around 32 degrees Celcius (around 95 Farenheit) the eggs will hatch as males, while fluctuations above or below this temperature will produce females. These animals are rarely dangerous to humans, preferring small mammals or fish.

The word alligator means

"the lizard" but both alligators and crocodiles are much more closely related to birds than lizards!

Crocodile literally means "pebble coloured worm" which is also not terribly accurate!

These animals live in river systems, so finding them should be a matter of searching for them in river regions.

There are three breeding pairs of the Black Cockatoos missing, as well as four Oceanian Crocodiles. Mark a rune to the locations of the animals you find and return to the throne room. You will not find these beasts can be tamed or harmed.